CONCERNS BOTH BRITISH INDIA AND INDIAN STATES.

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1873

Political (~~193~~) Department.

Mis SERIES.

G.O. No. 135 d 28. 3. 1873
139 d 31. 3. 73.

DATED

Confidential

[Despatch Abstract.]

Resident in Travancore & Cochin – Mr. Ballard – Newspaper attacks on.

BACK PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

FURTHER PAPERS.

G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.	G.O.	No.	Department.	Date.

Memorandum

On the 11th Instant an Editorial in the "Indian Statesman" newspaper was brought to my notice in which my fitness for the post of Resident was virulently criticized, & my conduct towards, & relations with the Maharaja of Travancore were very grossly mis-stated –

Enclosure A 2/ The article is appended –

I was much surprised at it's appearance. There had been sundry fugitive notices in the local papers of jealousy on the part of the Maharaja with regard to the Resident's "interferance", and of estrangement between the Maharaja & myself in consequence –

But as His Highness's invariably cordial manner towards me had not altered; as we exchanged visits & entertainments; & corresponded pri-vately & d. officially as usual; I took no notice of these newspaper remarks which could be made by any one & seemed only likely to acquire importance if serious attention was given to them –

I had often on previous occasions in conversation with the M. raja, when remarks were being freely bandied about in the local papers as to the relations between H. H., the late Dewan,

and myself, pointed out to H. H. how little attention such notices deserved. I did not think it necessary therefore either on the public or my own account ~~to~~ to recur to the subject. I was silent, & intended remaining so.

But when a Presidency Paper (of I believe some importance) made such strong & definite assertions with regard to me personally & officially as Resident in an Editorial I thought the time for silence had passed.

3/ - I may mention here that on the morning of the day I saw the Statesman's Article Dr. Ross, the Durbar Physician, had written to me asking me if I had seen a paragraph in the Madras Times of the 4th Instant regarding the M. raja, & stating that he proposed writing in his own name to contradict the paragraph on H. H's behalf.

I replied that my advice was not to notice the paragraph at all as if fugitive statements of the sort were once noticed it in a manner led to expectation that future similar reports would be also noticed; &

Note. Some one has written - vide issue of the Madras Times, d/- 12th Instant. Extract enclosed vide Enclosure B.

× Note. Since this was written the Madras Times of March 17th has reached me. It contains a Letter in Dr Ross's name. The Letter deserves perusal & attention in connection with subject of this memo.m

March 20th.
/73

perhaps to adverse inference & comment if they were then allowed to pass unchallenged, - I said I would speak to His Highness on the subject. I did not hear from Dr Ross again, and × do not know if he followed my advice or not -

But when a few hours after so writing to Dr Ross the Indian Statesman's article was shown to me I determined to speak without delay to the M.raja, and probably address my own Government, on the whole subject - I therefore proposed a visit to H. H. as usual, & paid it by appointment on the 13th -

After a little ordinary conversation I mentioned that Dr Ross had written to me as abovesaid, & told H. H. the reply I had made, & my reasons.

He expressed concurrence in the view I took; and said that when Dr Ross communicated the purport of my note, he (the M.raja) had requested Dr Ross not to write to the papers -

5/- I then mentioned to H. H. the article in the Statesman - I observed that an Editorial in a Presidency Paper, making such distinct & positive assertions, was a very different matter from the loose & general remarks of anonymous Correspondents in local journals.

I read the paragraphs that most distinctly stated our mutual

relations. Several times as I read H. H. exclaimed "False" - "no such thing" &c -, & immediately I stopped observed that the notes we had exchanged so frequently fully refuted such allegations - & that I must know that -

I assured H. H., as I honestly could that I considered the Statements grossly untrue, and never supposed them to represent his sentiments; that they only annoyed me as being likely to produce false impressions in various quarters - Farther conversation passed to the same effect. H. H. courteously expressed his sense of several services which he said he considered I had rendered. He remarked (as I myself had occasionally remarked to H. H. before when speaking of State affairs) that there might be honest differences of opinion on public matters - But he expressly & repeatedly said he had no cause of complaint whatever in respect to my personal manner to him.

H. H. had several times on previous occasions told me that he had difficulty sometimes at personal interviews (whoever the person might be he was addressing) in expressing his sentiments fully - from nervousness

and hesitation in speech - especially if subjects of at all an agitating nature were on the tapis - Partly out of consideration for H. H. on this account, & partly that H. H's views might be on paper in his own words, - I before leaving said that if H. H. had no objection I should be glad if he would write me a note, either breifly or particularly at his pleasure, on the subject that had engaged us -

Two notes written in consequence are appended —

osure

6/- I wish I could stop here but I must go on. For on public & private grounds it seemed to me necessary to discover if I could how such mischeivous mis-statements originated, & put the matter before Government as plainly as possible - One is seldom able to obtain direct & particular evidence in such cases - I will endeavour to state facts as simply & impartially as I can & leave it to Government to draw it's inferences & conclusions -

Very shortly after my return from Bombay (in January last) The First Prince called on me, and courteously welcomed me back to Travancore. Before leaving H. H. said he thought it right to speak to me on a delicate

subject. He asked me if I knew that rumours were locally rife that the M'raja had had serious differences with me; that H. H. was said to resent my "interferance" in State affairs; & was most anxious (or actually endeavouring, - I forget which) to get me removed - I laughingly expressed incredulity as to the real existence of such rumours, or as to their being credited, in spite of, as I believed, the well known relations between the M'raja & myself - But the Prince seemed to view the matter somewhat seriously, and said that the rumours acquired weight from Dr Ross the Durbar Physician being their originator, or spreader & supporter - H. H. said he had not been spoken to himself by Dr Ross; but that several persons had spoken to him of the rumours giving Dr Ross as their authority - He said he spoke to me as a friend - but that for obvious reasons he begged his name might not be mentioned, & that so far I told.

Consider his communication 5th
Confidential ——

7/— A few days after the Dewan t
me very much the same thing. - H
impression, - I think I may say conviction
whether right or wrong, - was that Dr
remarks & statements had gone f
to give prevalence to the rumour
But he also seemed to think th
the M'raja himself had felt ann
at one or two differences of opin
least) (perfectly open and acknowledged on his part) on public matters, that had occa
and notably on the question of the management
of the Judicial establishment
& that remarks made by the
M'raja himself to Dr Ross & othe
had been, sometimes in the natu
course of rumours, sometimes
designedly, exaggerated & perverted
The Dewan most naturally did
not wish *his* name to be brought
forward -

8/— Now there had been differen
of opinion between Dr Ross &
myself, & on several occasion×
I had been obliged to write
to him in a plain & (from the
circumstances not very pleasant
manner - But we met in
Society as usual, and I
shd - I believe have mentioned

× There is I think official or d-official correspondence on most or all of these matters which can easily be referred to if necessary -

the rumours to him & had them contradicted or explained - a course I should certainly have pursued with most gentlemen of my acquaintance, - had it not been for other private considerations which I need not enter on.

So seeing how indefinite the rumours as reported were, - that I cld- give no names, - & that the M'raja's manner, notes, &c, were just as before I thought it best to let the matter rest, - to say nothing & think as little about it as possible, - beleiving the rumours like other idle tales would die a natural death -

9/- When, however, the Indian Statesman's article appeared giving the rumours above said definiteness, intensity, & publicity, many circumstances forced a strong suspicion on my mind that Dr. Ross was responsible in no small degree for the appearance of the mis-statements -

Dr. Ross had told me he used to correspond with a paper edited by Mr. Knight who I understand

now Edits the Statesman -

I knew he had intercourse with Mr Knight when the M'raja, Dr Ross & I were lately in Bombay -

I knew that Dr Ross was vain of his position at the M'raja's Court, - that he was given to be boastful of his confidential influence with the M'raja - & to be somewhat indiscreet & inaccurate in his statements -

Dr Ross had shown some irritation on several matters on which I took a different view from his own -

The Statesman's article was in many respects, (tho' more precise & virulent) very like the rumours attributed to Dr Ross here -

Finally, I was utterly at a loss to account in any way for the appearance of the article otherwise & was unable to divest my mind of the very unpleasant suspicion that Dr Ross had much to do with it -

10/ - I must mention that an article appeared in the Madras Mail some three years ago which purported to describe my conduct as dictatorial, - & my dress at a Durbar, stating I had appeared

in a shooting coat. This latter statement was an absolute falsehood. I remember the circumstances well. I had no uniform at the time. I was dressed in the ordinary visiting costume of a gentleman; such as most civilians wld. wear at a morning ceremony unless Evening dress was specially prescribed – The story caused some annoyance & much amusement when it reached this; but I did not contradict it, for it really did not seem to me a fit subject for serious notice.

But I see it raked up again at the conclusion of the Indian Statesman's article —

It is a curious coincidence at any rate that the Editor of the Madras Mail had visited Trevandrum for a day or two a very short time before the article appeared, – had been Dr. Ross's Guest during the visit, – Whilst a short time before I had strongly urged on the

× Inspection of the Sirkar Hospitals by the Dy Inspector General on his tours through Travancore at any rate – Cochin availed itself of the Dy Inspector's visits: Travancore declined — //

Sirkar the adoption of a measure× distasteful to Dr. Ross —

// — In all these circumstances I thought it due to Dr Ross & myself to come to some understanding.

After communication with him I called at his house mentioning that I had heard rumours as aforesaid attributed to him, which though I had disregarded for a time I felt called on now to notice. I said I could not give the names of the only two persons who had spoken to me, but that I firmly believed they were not men to speak lightly — Dr Ross indignantly denied having originated any such rumours. He seemed to say he had heard widespread rumours of the sort, & might have repeated them, or spoken of them in society &c — I asked him if, considering our particular official positions, he could give me the names of any of the authors or spreaders of the reports so as to assist me in putting matters right. He seemed to say he did not

remember the names. At another part of the conversation I understood him to say he wld. not mention any names as I declined doing so.

Premising that I felt the delicacy of the question I said that in the circumstances I hoped he wld allow me to ask whether he wld. deny having any thing to do with the Statesman's article. He certainly gave an unequivocal denial. He said he had been surprised (& I think indignant) at the Statesman's article, & had written to Mr. Knight about it suggesting withdrawal, or modification or something to that effect. In farther conversation he allowed he had in reply to Mr. Knight's enquiries, when at Bombay spoken to him of the M'raja & Travancore affairs.

I cannot say the interview was at all satisfactory.

An hour or two after my return home I got a note from Dr. Ross which I enclose with my reply

Enclosure
D.

12/— I had put down notes of our interview immediately on my return to the Residency — I intended sending these to Dr. Ross for any remarks he might wish to make & then sending the whole matter to Govt. — But Dr. Ross is in poor health, & in a nervous excited state. I have waited several days to see if further explanation was likely to be arrived at. I understand from the Residency Surgeon who attended Dr. Ross on the 16th Instant that he was hardly in a fit state of health to discuss exciting or unpleasant topics — But rumours are rife. The local & other papers are copying the Statesman's article — With regard to that article I have already addressed[+] the Govt. & I wish to put this statement before Govt. without undue delay. These are my reasons for not having further com-

+ To Chief Secy. 14th Instant.

municated with Dr Ross
before submitting this
Memorandum for
the consideration of
Government —

C. A. Ballard
Resident

Trevandrum — }
March 19th 1873 }

merchant at Epernay produced 6,000 bottles which was at that time thought so enormous that it was published and is mentioned in the annals of Enology.

DRESS.—HINTS TO LADIES.

(Mrs. Hawies in Saint Pauls) for January.

MORALITIES OF DRESS.

Firstly. The morality of what we wear. Decency in dress is a difficult question, and one too lengthy and involved to discuss fully here. We need only give a few examples which may suggest more to thinking minds. The human body uncovered is not necessarily a shocking thing. There is nothing wrong or improper in that which is made in God's own image, which is justly held to be the highest type of beauty in creation. And at a time when beauty for its own sake was intensely appreciated, when it was cultivated with something of a religious enthusiasm, when mother longed for her child to be beautiful because beauty was felt to be divine, at such a time, in the fair warm climate of Greece and Italy, it was hardly thought needful to veil the body. The Greeks were proud of their beautiful bodies, as we are of a beautiful face, and a bare leg was no more to them than a bare arm is to us: and the sexes mingled in free and honest companionship, clad only in a thin stola, children being devoid even of that.

But what was harmless in the early Greeks would be impossible in nations who have lost to a great extent the simple instinct of natural beauty, whilst they have grown abnormally self-conscious and reflective. There are tribes in the East still of no virtue (acting up to their lights) who consider the exposure of the face, or their identity, indelicate; but the rest of the body, where everybody is more or less alike, may "go bare." The Turkish woman in her loose trouser, perhaps the most modest and sensible of all feminine costumes, is often held up as a type of indelicate dress; but in many respects our own fashions are open to juster criticism, which seem to admit an impropriety by displaying a part only, just enough to hint at the rest ... of something wrong. This is far worse than the entire expression of the form, where use and artistic appreciation, or simplicity of mind, have divested it of all exclusively evil associations.

Secodly. The morality of how we wear a thing depends on the wearer's mind. Some women, though covered up to the eyes, always contrive to look indelicate; some others, *decolletee* as the dressmaker and a corrupt custom have made them, are in their natural innocence without reproach. We may see this in statues and pictures. It is the mind that makes or mars. Many nude figures in sculpture and painting fail to offend because the face which expresses the mind is free from shame or blame, and the whole attitude is sweet and unconscious.

Thirdly. But of the first and

certain time, as in other wine growin countries, every one can gather whe he thinks best to do so.

As a rule the manufacturers champagne buy the grapes on th vines and get them gathered by the own people. Every bunch is ex amined and every unripe or decaye grape is carefully picked out and onl the sound and best are brought unde the press.

In this as well as in the choosin of the proper grapes at the prope time for gathering lies one of the se crets of the unrivalled success in th production of French champagn

A

THE RESIDENT OF TRAVANCORE AND COCHIN.

(Indian Statesman.)

This Indian Government of ours, is certainly the strangest compound of strength and weakness, wisdom and folly, strong desire to do right and readiness to be persuaded to do wrong that the world has ever seen. We believe in our heart and conscience that upon the whole it is the purest and most singleminded Government upon the face of the earth. And yet it is at times guilty of folly so profound, and upon temptation so slight, that it is difficult to speak of it with the moderation and courtesy that so much excellence should command from the publicist. Every one knows how delicate are the duties entrusted to the Residents at our Native Courts, and how important it is that the officer selected for such appointments, should not merely be men of ability, but possessing the natural advantages of a good presence, and dignified and courteous manners. So much importance do we attach to this last consideration, that when reviewing the Durbar ceremonies attendant upon Lord Northbrook's visit to Bombay we said that were we Viceroy, we would never appoint any man to be Political Agent or Resident, at any of the Native Courts, until we had had an opportunity of forming a judgment for ourselves, by personal observation, of the fitness of the officer recommended for so delicate a position. Now if there is one Native Prince in India who has conciliated more good will towards himself on the part of Englishmen of our native fellow subjects, and of his brother feudatories, the Princes of the empire, than another —it is Travancore. Every one is familiar with the name of the Prince; and most men with the fact that his dominions are so admirably governed as to be a veritable "Happy Valley." There is perhaps no part of India at this moment so well governed, so prosperous, so happy in all respects as Travancore. Its administration is a model one, largely owing to the excellent abilities of the ex-Prime Minister, Sir T. Madhava Rao, but in no inconsiderable degree to the personal qualities of the Prince himself. "The little Rajah," as he is affectionately called, is as popular with his own people as with outsiders; while he is loyal to the backbone to ourselves. The position of British Resident at his Court in consequence of the character of his rule, is all but a sinecure; and we surely might have expected in these circumstances, that the Supreme Government would have sent as its representative to this small Court a man of dignified and gentle manners to grace it with his presence. And what have we really done? We are sorry to go on; but must not be held back by personal consideration for the Resident, from saying that we ought to say Mr. Ballard then, is an old Madras Civilian, near the top of the tree, and a highly respectable but dull man. Filled with a sense of his own importance, and greatly disliked by the men who have served under him in our own administration, we send him to fasten his legs round the neck of poor little Travancore. It is useless to sound an uncertain note upon a matter like this. Mr. Ballard, owing to his temper and his manners, is about as fit to be Resident at a Native Court as representative of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen, as a drill sergeant of dragoons. The life of the Travancore Prince is made perfectly miserable by his discorteous and overbearing conduct, and it reflects real disgrace on our Government; that simply to provide an adequate salary for a man of Mr. Ballard's standing, it has not hesitated to fasten him round the neck of our loyal and excellent moved by the knowledge Our indignation is so the Prince has to suffer from the infliction of this gentleman upon him, that we have resolved to force the matter upon the notice of the Supreme Government. The Madras Government *must* know how unfit Mr. Ballard is to fill an office of the kind, and must have a very good idea at least, of the sort of relations that exist between him and the Prince. The latter is so offended, and justly offended, with his manners and general bearing, that he would refuse even to see him, were it possible for him to do so without offence to the Government. We advise the Prince to force the scandal to a culmination, by addressing a remonstrance to Her Majesty's Viceroy upon the subject, and publishing it to the world. It is a great and cruel wrong to force this Prince to endure the presence of an officer who is perpetually offending and irritating him by his want of courtesy—simply that this gentleman may be enabled to draw the large salary attached to the appointment. The Madras Government knows, we fear, too well that what we say is true, and that Mr. Ballard ought never to have been sent to Travancore at all. What right have we to force any man upon the Prince, who is personally disagreeable to him? Have we really no officer in the country that could get along smoothly with a man like our "little Rajah," and in a State so admirably governed as to be a model of administration to the rest of India! We earnestly appeal to Lord Northbrook to relieve the Prince from the thraldom in which we have placed him by our folly. What are Mr. Ballard's feelings to us, in a matter of this kind? It is either his fault, or his misfortune, to make himself intensely disagreeable to every one: and as this is a peculiarity we may not ignore in a case like this, he should be provided for elsewhere. There is something so unworthy in looking upon an appointment such as that Mr. Ballard fills, as a mere provision for a man "high up in the service," that we cannot speak too warmly of it. We are assured that ever since his appointment all matters of business between him and the Government of Travancore have been transacted, in such a way, and with such scant courtesy on his part, that the direst offence has been given. We all know what *manner* means, and how offensive it may be without giving tangible ground of complaint. In all *direct* communication between the Prince and the Government of Madras, or the Viceregal Government, as might have been expected, the Prince is addressed in terms befitting his rank and the esteem felt for him while Mr. Ballard's tone, both to the Prince personally and in his communications by letter, is, we are assured simply that of a lofty superior, dictatorial and overbearing and utterly uncalled for. Let the Prince take our advice and address the Viceroy upon the subject, and if necessary publish his letter and appeal to the world. He will find Englishmen ready to stand by the side of an ally, so loyal and good in every respect. We will not have Travancore bullied by Mr. Ballard, or by any other official fastened, upon him for the mere sake of the 'pay' attached to the office. We want, and we will have, courteous manners in our Residents first of all Mr. Ballard's appearance of the Travancore Durbar in his shooting coat is an old story now, but was a disclosure of character that has since become intolerable, and we find it hard to persuade ourselves that they do not know it in Madras as well as we do here.

B. Madras Times. 12th March 1873

A TREVANDRUM correspondent says :—In your paper of March 4th, appears a quotation from the letter of a correspondent of the *Bangalore Spectator* headed "The Maharajah of Travancore," and stating that a picture of the Maharajah appears in a late number of the *Graphic*. This is amusing, and H.H. will no doubt send off for that valuable paper at once, but whether his "vanity will be tickled" is open to doubt. The said correspondent also states broadly that H.H. had become "captious" since his visit to Bombay, and that he tries "to kick against the interference of the British Resident in matters relating to the welfare of his country" —that he "evinces antagonism against the counsels of the Resident," and that in fact "he wishes to act as he likes, under the influence of Court Intriguers." This is quite new. The present Resident is not a man to interfere unduly. There is really nothing to interfere about—and if he were to do so, the present Maharajah is hardly likely to make much fuss about it, although His Highness may have gained a little confidence and some larger ideas of independance during his late trip. He has seen much greater Residents than the Resident, and a much greater Governor than our Governor. As for "Court Intriguers." The present Dewan is quite as able, *as a Dewan*, as was Sir T. M. Row, and the affairs of the state require no more interference at present than they did under "a person of the late Dewan's ability and skill !"

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TURT
rec
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Prime

Fresh S
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Findon
Mackerel
Fine Sco
Salmon
Dried Sp
Herrings
Yarmout
Sardines

Potted H

Yorkshir
Do
Veal and

C.

14th March
1873

My dear friend

Referring to our conversation of yesterday I have to repeat that I have always felt great esteem for you personally and am deeply sensible of your kind and warm support and aid on certain

lara
the top

important personal matters such as the due performance of my coronation ceremony and so on of which I have always been a pleasant and faithful recollection. It is also my earnest wish that our relations should be friendly as happy and cordial as possible, but I must frankly say that on some publics

matters there has
been some difference
between us though
not to such an extent
as to affect materially
our good understanding
and I have always
felt some hesitation
and delicacy in
opening my mind
and state what
embarrassment
I have really felt
on such occasions
all of which
might have

have avoided by
one personal conference
with myself. –

I remain
Yours very sincerely
Rama Swamich

14th March
1873

My dear friend
Many thanks
to your kind note
and I fully appreciate
all of your kindly
assurances - I did
not mean that - we
have not fully
committed me
to public meeting
but what led
me to make that

I thank y[e] H for y[e] note
The principle I think of
the cause y[e] H indicates
has pretty generally been
recognized & acted on. But
I shall with pleasure bear
y[e] H[on]s more clearly
expressed wishes in
view - & have everything
[illegible]
J. A. D.

observation was only
one or two instances
of late of some being
put some opinions
in paper before
speaking to me
first on the subject
in which I have
some difference of
opinion as we
might have
known been already
drawn from the
all – To avoid
temporary misunder-
-standings permit
me to state frankly
that whenever

we will have occasion
to propose any new
measures in connection
with the general
administration of our
Government it would
be far more agreeable
if we could consult
each with to first
my after me personally
my views knowing
views fully & feel-
writing opinions either in
or D O well either in
in due sure officially
I must course it
~~prop~~ also be and
to permitted
to express my

opinion freely without any delicacy or apprehension whatever. I may have my own honest difference of opinion which the best friends may now and then have with the best motives mutually. You will agree that the above indicated course will make all smooth matters and promote our harmony.

I remain
Yours very sincerely
Rama Varma

(draft) Resy. 14. 3. 73

My dear Maharaja, I have had the pleasure of receiving yr. H.'s note wh. with the conversation of yesterday will enable me to show (if I have occasion to do so) that I was not mistaken in the pleasing belief I long entertained that very friendly relations existed & continue between yr. H.s & myself. & that reports to the contrary are the work of malicious & designing persons whose interest it seems, for some reason or other, to distort these friendly relations. I

thank Y. H.s for setting
that question at rest —
That the consideration
with wh. you have hon.d me
will become all the more
friendly as any matters in wh.
full mutual understanding
from whatever cause, has
not been arrived at, are
fully & frankly explained
I hope & venture to believe.
I have had the pleasure
of so much personal conference
with your H.s that I have
understand I confess how

any difference of opinion that may have existed cld. have been avoided, but I beg yr Hs will be good enough to let me know at yr. Convenience whether any matter public or private now remain pending on wh. personal conference wld be agreeable. I shall as I trust yr Hs knows be happy to wait on you at any time.

I will not now repeat what I have often said before ~~that~~ it is my earnest wish to support any measure that appears conducive to the welfare of Nat[iv]e

in the manner most agreeable to His Sovereign on public grounds; – &

on that most agreeable to Y. H.s personally, from the very friendly way in wh. it has hitherto been my pleasure to have been met by Y. H.

Believe me, as always

Y. H.s very sincerely

J. A. B.

D

Moorundi[illegible]
13th March/73

My dear Mr Ballard,
You came to me to day when I was not very well, & commenced a series of questions which certain I did not expect to have asked of me & which seem due to ~~have~~ been asked with the view of making me commit myself to certain statements which I could not under the circumstances fairly consider before I made them. I should prefer to have all such transactions in writing

on any subject of importance should be in writing so that it may be submitted to higher authority.

I am quite certain that I have done & said nothing of which I have the least need to be ashamed. & I should be very glad if the present unpleasant business could be settled amicably as otherwise I must do my best to defend myself which I should be sorry to have to do – as it might involve more than one person unpleasantly.

If I have said or done any thing which appears to you to have acted prejudicially I can only say I am

As the memories of the best are apt to prove inaccurate at times.

All the correspondence could then if necessary be submitted to the Govt.

I do not know how it is but you seem to have taken the most violent prejudice against me & to view all matters connected with me in the strongest way & not in my favour.

Under the circumstances I beg ~~that~~ you will consider what I have said ~~to~~day as not having passed. I consider the questions you asked unfair & the way you asked them unfair. At any rate it is only just to both that everything that passes between us

sorry for it for it was far from my desire to do so –

Yours sincerely
A E Meadon Ross.

draft answer

My dear Dr Ross, I called on you today after several communications with you & after offering to postpone interview till yr own convenience as the matter I had to speak to you on was an unpleasant one – You said you were quite able to see me & that the sooner the matter was settled the better – Hence my visit –

I cannot understand how you can say that the questions I asked were unfair & the way I asked them unfair – On the contrary I explained what forced on me the unpleasant task & left it to you to answer the questions or not – You did not take exception as I remember to any –

I have no desire to act hostilely to you – this apl my wish if I am forced to do so – It was to elicit truth if possible I called on you today & both on public & private grounds I must elicit it if I can – I am yrs faithfully

JAS

15.8.73

This should have been sent with enclosure C in Travancore Resident's mem. of 19th March 1873

I think these notes require a few words of explanation, or they may mislead those not well acquainted with H. H's somewhat peculiar style in English, – and habit of expression.

First note When the M'rajah & I have been both ~~at~~ Trevandrum a period of a week or ten days has seldom passed without my visiting H. H. – or receiving a visit from him though of course my visits to H. H. are much the most frequent – & conversing with him tête à tête on general & business matters. It is clear therefore there was no want of opportunity

of personal conference as H.H.'s expression at the end of his note might lead one to suppose.

Second note – H.H. in his second note corrects the expression, – but goes on to say he would have preferred in one or two cases more viva voce communication before my views were put on paper –

The question in H.H.'s mind was, I know, that of the rearrangement of the Judicial Establishment & Salaries – Conversations on that subject have passed between H.H. & myself or

sundry different occasions at intervals since 1871 when I returned to Travancore.
to increase some of the salaries
A proposition, was made by H.H. (I believe ~~xxx~~ mainly in consequence of our conversations) to the Dewan some 9 or 10 months ago; but, after a short correspondence between H.H. & the Dewan, was abandoned & the consideration postponed sine dine, by H.H.'s desire.

The proposition was not communicated to me at the time; and I did not know it had been made till a few weeks ago when the Dewan told me of it in the course of conversation on my late mem^m on the subject.

I wrote that mem^m because

I had for some time pre-
viously come to the conclusion
that there was little likelihood
of getting matters advanced
unless some definite
scheme was put on paper
for consideration -

I could not be unaware
that what I wished to see
was not merely the increase of
a few individual salaries
but the placing of the Judicial
Establishment on a regular
system, & the rendering it more
independent of direct action
from the Palace, was hardly
likely to be very actively under-
taken by a Prince in the Maharaja's
position - The Judicial

appointments has always been a very delicate question here as the late & present Dewans, & the Excellent First Judge of the Sadr Court here, well know –

It is the bearing of the reform that I advocate that is not I fear very pleasing to H.H. – not really the manner in which the question has been treated; though the transposition is easy –

Of course the reform is obnoxious to the Palace Intriguers; and the question is used by them to make as much embarrassment as possible –

The real subject is a very important one. It has been before Govt.[x]

× vide G.O. 29th Nov. 1873 No 428 —

in part, & I shall soon address Govt. on it again but I think it well to make these remarks here as necessary to a true appreciation of H. H's notes.

Whilst on the subject I may mention a matter which occurred at Bombay to my annoy in which I know H. H. took exception.

At the receptions Durbars all the other Princes & Chiefs had their "Sirdars" generally 6 (or nine) in attendance.

I was asked by one of the Secretaries to give a

list of H.H's – On asking for this I found the names of the Valia Kovil Tamburan & of one or two other of the local aristocracy (so to speak) who were with H.H's followers on tour omitted, – and the list supplied made up of officials, & Palace servants – descending rather low in the scale –

I remonstrated. I begged H.H. to allow the Valia Kovil Tamburan at least (a very intelligent good man) to take a place in the ceremonies. I pressed the matter strongly, – for it was really to be regretted that one

of the best men of local position shd. be shulord from ceremonies in which he was well qualified & most desirous to take a fitting part.

But H. H. refused to assent - & was at the time I know annoyed at my encouraging as he thought the Jambunan's & others desire.

I really know of no other matters of a tendency to disturb our relations.

S.A.S.

Confidential

Rec'd. 25.3.

Trevandrum
March 20th 1873

From The Resident
in Travancore & Cochin

To The Chief Secretary to Govt.
Fort St. George

Sir, I have the honor to submit for the consideration of Government a Memo.m & Enclosures on certain gross misrepresentations with regard to the relations that exist between the Maharaja of Travancore & myself that have appeared in several Newspapers lately.

I regret exceedingly to have to trouble Government at such length on somewhat personal matters.

I have the honor to be
Sir
Your most obedient Servant
G. A. Ballard
Resident

Salta 1ª 139

Madras.

I circulate a confidential letter recd. today from Mr. Bullard relative to the newspaper attacks on him. and I put up some files of the Bombay paper in wh. they have appeared & a copy of the Fd. of India — showing how persistent these are & the effect they are producing.

Mr. Bullard's letter

I do not see what the Govt can do in this case beyond reassuring Mr Bullard the content with the assurance that he has the full confidence & approval of his own Govt., and with the complete denial

and the enclosures show
I think how unfounded
they are — and that they
have probably been
prompted by Dr. Ross
the Durbar surgeon. —
I think Dr. Ross' own
letter to the papers wh. is
republished in one of those
cut up — indicates that
he wishes to put Mr. B.
in his defence. —
Dr. R's letter to Mr. B.
is anything but a
disclaimer of participation
in the attack —
The M'Raja's letter

is given to him in
writing by the Maharajah
himself, that the
Maharajah has as
much ground of
complaint against the
acts of Mr. Bullard
as those which are
attributed to him by certain
newspapers.

Attacks in newspapers
upon public men
may be disagreeable,

but as they are very seldom based upon very accurate statement of facts, no sensible person attaches any importance to them.

[illegible]

J. D. S.

W. S. E.

I think proven that it is wholly unjustifiable.

Mr. Ballard's manner generally is not such as to produce a favorable impression on strangers but I am sure that all who know him would testify that he is incapable of wilful & intentional discourtesy or rudeness.

J. B.

25.3.73.

I believe Dr. Ross is about to leave Trivandrum on leave. If this is so — nothing need be done — otherwise I think it would be very desirable to move him

W S E

Brooks

Desp. 81

Confidential

Pol. Dept.

No. 139.

To
G. A. Ballard Esq.
Resident T. & C.

Sir
I am directed to acknowledge receipt of your confidential letter of 20 March 73. with its enclosures, relative to the newspaper articles that have lately appeared in some quarters commenting on the supposed inharmonious relations existing between H. H. the Maharajah of Travancore, and to say in reply that the

Genl. considers you may
well rest content with
the assurance that you
possess the full confidence
& support of your own
Govt. and with the complete
denial given to you in
writing by the M. Raja
himself that the M. Raja
has no such grounds of
complaint against you
himself as those wh. are
attributed to him by
the papers in question.

E. B.

31. March 73.

Travancore

be pub with these —

[Ind]ian Statesman Mar 5, 1873

" — Mar 14 —

" — Mar 18

" — Mar 20 —

[F]riend of India Mar 20 —

Dr A. E. M. Ross
and
Newspaper attacks
on Mr Ballard.

Confidential Dept.

Political Department.

PROCEEDINGS of the MADRAS GOVERNMENT.

~~Read the following letter~~

Dated 28 March 1873, No. 135.

A letter was published in the "Madras Times" Newspaper of 17th instant signed "Aneas McLeod Ross, Durbar Physician and Principal Medical Officer - Travancore." and having for its object to defend His Highness the Maharajah of Travancore from a Newspaper attack.

2. The Resident in Travancore and Cochin will inform Dr. Ross that the letter has attracted the attention of Government and that he ~~ought not~~ acting to

I think the letter to the [illegible] would be better administered. Demi-officially.

J. D. S.

I wd. make it official but not print or print in Confidential dept. D. O. communications are inconvenient and should be employed very sparingly — R. H.

improperly in publishing
~~to have taken upon himself~~ such a letter in his
~~to write such a defence~~
~~in an~~ official capacity.

3. Dr. Ross will also be directed not to assume any official designation but that of "2nd Physician to H.H. the Maharajah of T." ~~Doctor~~ Physician" to which office he was appointed by the Governor in Council. and by which designation he was gazetted — C.H.

I do think
has acted improperly
in publishing such a
letter in his official
~~[illegible]~~
capacity ~~[illegible]~~
~~[illegible]~~ [illegible] of
[illegible]

I am not quite
sure how far a Matter
we are [illegible] to upset
the letter.

H.

I think we are right
There are old standing orders
agt public servants writing
to newspapers on official matters
without previously obtaining
permission — M.

To,

The Resident in Travancore and Cochin } desp.d 28

Pol Pro: 16 Nov 1868 - 250. Misc:
Madras Times - 17 Mar 1873
do — 4 — do

Dr Ansr

Pol Dept

fo 135 d 28-3-73
139 d 31-3-73

Circulate

Govt. of {187 } Madras.

To ______________________

Dated } 187 , No.
Recd. }

Nos.

Confdl

Mr. Rozario
Take care that this kept in the Confidential Dept. I don't think it need be printed